

SUPPLEMENTARY LETTERS OF
SIR JOSEPH BANKS

SECOND SERIES



Edited by WARREN R. DAWSON

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SUPPLEMENTARY LETTERS OF SIR JOSEPH BANKS

Second Series

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FOREWORD

IN this *Bulletin*, Historical Series, Vol. 3, No 2, (1962), 139 letters were calendared additional to those in the main work, *The Banks Letters*, published by order of the Trustees in 1958. In the present part 64 further letters are presented. Most of these are contained in a collection of miscellaneous papers relating to Sir Joseph Banks which was acquired by the Department of Manuscripts of the British Museum in 1963, and numbered Add. MS. 52281. To these are added a few letters from other sources.

The method of presentation is the same as that of *The Banks Letters*, but as in the First Supplement, explanatory notes have been added where necessary. The letters from writers whose names already occur in the original work and/or in the first Supplement, are numbered consecutively with those already calendared, and as before, letters written by Banks himself are marked with an asterisk.

ASTLE, Thomas, F.R.S. (1735–1803) Keeper of Records, Tower of London.

- i. Soho Square, 1802 Aug. 19.* He has great respect for Dr. Marcet and happy to be useful to him ; in the present case, as the Governors of Guy's Hospital make their own decisions as to vacancies on the staff, no opposition is likely.

B.M. (N.H.). †

Alexander John Gaspard Marcet, M.D., F.R.S., (1770–1822) was a candidate for the post of Physician to Guy's Hospital, and his friend Astle had asked for B.'s support to meet any opposition there might be. Marcet was duly appointed.

BAILEY, Francis. (Of Newbury, Berkshire)

- i. Soho Square 1799 June 11.* States that there is little likelihood of any person being engaged by the African Association, the funds of which are limited and will not admit of more than one person at a time being employed, and there is at present one explorer in Africa ; reminds the applicant that he has

† Inserted in a copy of Edward Smith's *Life of Banks*. An account of this book and of the documents inserted in it, was published by Dr. Averil Lysaght in *Journ. Soc. Bibl. Nat. Hist.*, Vol. 4, pt. 4 (1964), pp. 206–209. Edward Smith, published his book in 1911, and died at Whitstable, 13 Dec. 1919 in his 81st year.

given no account of his qualifications and experience ; advises him to read Mungo Park's book from which he will learn the qualities and acquirements necessary to an explorer in Africa.

Bodleian, *MS. Autogr. d.* 14. 2.

It is not known if Bailey renewed his application and furnished particulars of his qualifications. He was never employed by the African Association.

BAUER, Franz Andreas, (1758–1840) Botanical Artist. (See *B.L.* p. 40).

3. Kew. 1813 Aug. 31. Declaration signed by Bauer that all the drawings he has made are the property of B. from whom he has received an annual salary ; he further declares that all future drawings he shall make during the continuance of the salary shall likewise be the property of B.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 107.

BRACKENBURY, Joseph (1753–1811). Clerk of the Peace for Lindsey (See *B.L.* p. 149).

4. Spilsby 1792 June 4. Sends by command of the Duke of Ancaster a copy of the printed Proclamation, dated 21 May, 1792, against seditious propaganda.

B. B. Add. MS. 52281. 13.

The heading of the entry in *B.L.* 149 is to be amended as above.

BROUSSONET, Pierre Marie Auguste, F.R.S. (1764–1807) Botanist. (See *B.L.* p. 155).

134. Soho Square. [1789] May 1.* At yesterday's meeting of the Royal Society, the following were elected Foreign members : [Claude Louis] Berthollet, [Pierre Simon, Marquis de] Laplace, [Jean Dominique, Comte de] Cassini, [Adrien Marie] Le Gendre, and [Pierre François André] Méchain ; [Antoine, Baron] Portal had too many black balls, and if he means to succeed, he must apply again at a future date ; some felons have refused pardons granted on condition of their settling in Australia, as they seem to prefer death to banishment ; the ship bringing curiosities for B. has not yet arrived, but when it does so, he will send Br. a Kangaroo. [Follows *B.L.* No 86].

St. Andrew's University, Chemical Dept.
Miscellaneous MSS. †

† Formerly the property of the late Professor John Read, F.R.S.

BUGGE, Thomas, F.R.S. (1740–1815). Astronomer. (See *B.L.* p. 183).

17. Copenhagen. 1812 May 12. Regrets the long interruption of his correspondence, due to the war, for which he blames the English Ministers ; the bombardment of the Danish capital caused great damage to the University and the Cathedral ; his own house was burned to the ground and the whole of his library of 8000 volumes was destroyed ; his family fortunately escaped injury ; a young pupil of his, Lieut. Wormskiold, well versed in botany and astronomy, has made a scientific expedition to Greenland ; asks for B.'s intervention to save his observations and collections, as B. is regarded as the tutelary deity of Iceland, and he hopes of Greenland also ; the collections have been landed at Leith and he begs B. to recover them and house them in his library ; the Observatory luckily suffered little damage. [*French*].

Bodleian. *MS. Eng. Hist.* d. 150. 89–90.

CARTWRIGHT, John. (1740–1824). Political Reformer.

1. Brothertoft 1799 Sept. 19. Thanks B. for terminating their previous intercourse " which it seems was no longer likely to have been cordial " ; states his political opinions and his differences with B. [Written in the third person].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 27.

CHISLETT, John. (d. 1793). Surgeon.

1. Horncastle. 1792 Dec. 13. Asks B. to nominate the clergyman to preach the Anniversary Sermon for the [Medical] Charity ; [Thomas] Paine's adherents in the County are not numerous but are very audacious and have circulated inflammatory literature ; the farmers on market-days have given loyal toasts in consequence of the affrays which have occurred in public houses ; in one of these, a loyalist received a blow and soon after died ; the post-mortem, however, revealed a pre-existing state of gangrene which was the cause of death and the Jury's verdict was death from natural causes ; at Boston there are disaffected persons and the singing of " God Save the King " was greeted with hisses ; many labourers want a disturbance that they may commit depredations ; he hopes that Government and the Magistrates will be active and inflict condign punishment ; applies for the tenancy of two of B.'s closes which will soon become vacant.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 14–15.

CLARK, Richard. (1739-1831). Chamberlain of the City of London.

1. Spring Grove. 1813 Oct. 3.* Discusses the claim of the Lord Mayor of London to take the place of the Heir Apparent to the Crown within the jurisdiction of the City, which was asserted at the funeral of Lord Nelson, and admitted *pro hac vice* ; he has searched for precedents of the rank in which the Lord Mayor has been anciently placed in processions, funerals, etc. ; he finds that the Lord Mayor is always placed by the side of Garter King of Arms, between the convoy and the procession ; he finds also that the Lord Mayor always carries what is called the City Sceptre, a small mace ; asks whether this article is preserved amongst the regalia of the City, or whether the Lord Mayor when proceeding with Garter King carries the full-sized mace upon his shoulder.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 130.

The Lord Mayor in 1805 was Sir James Shaw, Bart. (1764-1843). This letter is a copy in the handwriting of Sarah Sophia Banks amongst a number of documents copied by her on the same subject. (ff. 123-131 *vo*). Orders and precedents were subjects in which B. and his sister were greatly interested.

COLE, William. (See *B.L.* p. 223).

- 2 Gosport. 1803 June 11. Presents the bearer of this letter, [Louis Auguste] Deschamps ; he has secured his release with the assistance of the Rev. Mr. [Richard] Bingham, a magistrate of Gosport ; Mr. Bingham has subjoined a passport for the convenience of Deschamps.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 71 vo.

3. Gosport 1803 June 14. He has just returned from the Custom House and the Prize Agents ; from the latter he has permission to hand over to Deschamps all the natural history collections with the rest of his (D.'s) property ; he has been instructed to lodge the articles in the Custom House until further orders, when they will permit them to be sent to the Custom House in London to be searched ; he will go on board *L'Union* to arrange their landing ; asks for an Order in Council for the landing and storing.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 36.

4. Gosport 1803 June 16. He has visited the Custom House and found there two trunks belonging to Deschamps containing wearing apparel ; he has purchased two padlocks to secure them and encloses the keys ; the trunks will be in London in a few days.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 72.

5. Gosport. 1803 June 17. He has visited the French ship to examine the property of Deschamps ; it consists principally of books, with some parcels of plants, shells, insects, etc. ; the Hortus Siccus is much damaged and many specimens destroyed ; these articles are to be lodged in the Custom House ; a small box of lilies will be sent to B. by the wagon ; the Colonel who was a passenger on the ship gave him some substances said to be gold and silver, and a bottle containing scorpions which he sends to B. for his own collection ; Capt. Hamelin presented him with a living parrot which also he proposes to send to B.
B.M. Add. MS. 52281, 35.
6. Gosport. 1803 July 5. Acknowledges B.'s letter about the missing trunks, [*see infra*, MACLEAN, W. No. 3] ; encloses note from the Officer of the Custom House. [The enclosed note, undated and signed Wm. NORRIS, states that two trunks were sent on 17 June addressed to the Warehouse Keeper for the Crown, E. I. Baggage Warehouse, St. Helen's London, and that two others remain, awaiting orders. f 40].
B.M. Add. MS. 52281, 38.
7. Gosport. 1803 July 20. Informs B. that the greater part of the packages [of Deschamps] will be sent by the Portsmouth wagon to the warehouse in London, the remainder to follow in due course.
B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 45.
8. Soho Square. 1803 July 28*. He has had notice of the reception of 4 cases and 2 chests belonging to Deschamps at the London warehouse ; Government appear to be pleased at the liberality of the captors, and will pay for any part of the goods that may have been thought of value sufficient to detain them for the benefit of the crew, in order that they may be sent gratis to Deschamps ; requests Cole to enquire if any further articles relating to Natural History or Science remain on board, particularly drawings ; returns sincere thanks to Cole for his handsome assistance, and requests him to render thanks to the captors and their agents for their liberal and generous conduct, which does honour to the British name and to science.
B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 47.
9. Gosport. 1803 Aug. 2. On his return from Essex, he was pleased to learn that the goods of Deschamps have arrived ; by an error,

some Frenchmen on parole at Bishop's Walton have taken two or three chests with them, an error that can easily be rectified ; the captors have acted with great liberality ; he much values B.'s appreciation of his services ; he is engaged in raising a Defence Corps and has purchased suitable publications for distribution.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 50-51.

10. Gosport. 1803 Aug. 16. Encloses the keys of Deschamps's trunks, sent from Bishop's Walton via Winchester ; he has been active in raising a Defence Corps which now musters 250 men ; in a P.S. states that a French prisoner at Bishop's Walton has a valuable collection of butterflies which he wishes to sell. [Attached is an inventory of the contents of the trunks, with a note by B., " Recovered from Bishop's Walton Augt. 18 1803 from Mr. Cole ". f. 62].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281, 61.

DESCHAMPS, Louis Auguste, (1765-1842) Naturalist. (See *B.L.* p. 261).

3. Portsmouth 1803 May 28. Although he has not the honour of being known to B., he, as a naturalist in distress and a victim of the war, appeals for the assistance of B. ; after an absence of 12 years devoted to science, he was naturalist in the *Recherche*, commanded by D'Entrecasteaux, and remained in Java for 10 years, occupied with Natural History and explored this almost unknown country, making a fine collection especially of plants ; he therefore applies to B., the foremost naturalist in England and the companion of Capt Cook, for assistance, especially as B. had been the means of restoring the collections of his colleague Labillardière [See *B.L.* p. 514] ; he now begs B. to render similar assistance to himself. [*French*] [Note by B., " I wrote on the Rect. of this Letter to Capt. George of the Transport Office to obtain the liberation of M. Deschamps, on the plea of his being a non combatant which he immediately obtained from the Admiralty in consequence of which orders for his Release were forwarded to Portsmouth."]

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 69-70.

4. St. Omer. 1803 June 25. Informs B. that he has rejoined his family at St. Omer and expresses his and their thanks to B. for his help in extricating him from his unfortunate situation ; Broussonet has left for Paris and sends his respects to B. [*French*].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 41v0-41.

5. St. Omer. 1803 July 5. He feels anxious about his property for which he has long been waiting; as communication from Dover has not been interrupted, he fears his goods have been seized by the Customs officers at Dover; this delay is all the more disquieting as all his papers are there and he cannot go to Paris without seeing them; as he fears he may be compromised if opposition were made by the [British] Government, he once more begs B.'s intervention with the Ministry to recover his effects. [*French*]. [On the back is a note from PIGAULT-MAUBAILLARCQ; see *infra*, and *B.L.* p. 671.]
- B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 64.*
6. St. Omer. 1803 July 26. He has already written twice to thank B. for his valuable aid and to inform him that his property has not yet arrived; begs pardon for his importunity, but fears his former letters have not reached B. [*French*]
- B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 52.*
7. [Soho Square. 1803. Aug. 18.* He has twice written to explain why D.'s trunks have not yet been received, and fears his letters have miscarried; the last of the trunks have only just come, having been carried away by some French gentlemen. [See *supra*, COLE, W. No. 9]; hopes all his property has now been recovered, but he cannot answer for that owing to interference by the French; nearly a month ago orders were given to the agent of M. Pigault-Maubailarcq [*q.v.*] to lose no opportunity of forwarding them to that gentleman; no ship has sailed to France, and it is impossible to send goods by packet, as they are never allowed to enter Calais harbour; regrets the disappointment, as the English Government has ordered every facility to be given so that all the collections may be restored. [Note by B. "Aug. 18 Learning from Mr. Newland's letter annexd that this letter would not pass I have omitted to send it." See *infra* NEWLAND, Isaac, No. 2].
- B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 53.*
8. Paris. 1803 Sept. 21. [Received Dec. 3]. Acknowledges B.'s letter of 25 July, informing him that he holds all his possessions and will forward them on the first opportunity; as it was hoped to send them by M. Pigault [—Maubailarcq.] (*q.v.*) at Calais, this method must fail as communication there is interrupted, and it would be better to send them to Morlaix,

to M. Forestier of the Bureaux de La Marine, as nothing would then be opened by the Customs officers ; in the list of the collection sent, there is no mention of 6 wooden boxes containing dried plants ; he fears these have been sent to W. Cole, to whom he has written ; these cases contain the most valuable of all the plants collected in Java ; Broussonet is in Paris about to leave for Montpellier. [*French*].

B. M. Add. MS. 52281. 57-58.

9. Paris. 1803 Dec. 28. [Received Jan 28, 1804]. Renews his thanks to B. for the great kindnesses rendered and for the assurance that on the first opportunity his property will be restored to him ; asks that the cases may be sent to M. Forestier Chef de division de la Marine at Morlaix or to his own address at St. Omer ; Broussonet and his family are at Montpellier, he has little or nothing to communicate as to Natural History, as everyone is occupied in making new systems or in describing old plants under new names ; Dr. Jussieu is about to issue his *Species Plantarum* on which he has long been working ; the Chevalier [Charles Pierre Claret, Comte de] Fleurieu has written the *Voyage of D'Entrecasteaux*, which is being printed at the expense of Government. [*French*].

B. M. Add. MS. 52281. 55-56.

10. St. Omer. 1814 June 14. Refers to information in his last letters that he was in London at the same time as Broussonet, and hopes B. will remember a naturalist arrived from Java and whose collections were detained by the Custom House at Portsmouth ; [Timothy] Topping (*q.v.*) who brings this letter has undertaken to obtain from B. the information necessary to recover the collections from the person with whom they were deposited in London ; it is possible that they may have been returned to France long ago, in which case he will endeavour to recover them. [*French*].

B. M. Add. MS. 52281. 66.

DOUCE, Francis, F.S.A. (1757-1834). Antiquary. (See First Suppl. p. 47).

39. Soho Square. 1815 Jan. 1.* Returns thanks for books lent and asks for the loan of Vol. iii of Rymer's *Fœdera*. [Fellows No. 18].

Bodleian. *MS. Douce d. 22. 185.*

DRYDEN, Frances, née HOWELL (d. 1828) Widow of Sir Gregory Dryden, 3rd Bart.

1. Revesby Abbey. 1807 Oct. 20.* Assures her that he has confidence in [John] Linton, [*B.L.* p. 545] and that he will watch over the interests

of Lady Dryden and her son ; asks if she has an agent in London with whom he can communicate ; the Clergy are averse to accepting one ninth of the Common Lands in lieu of their tithes and to giving up a portion of their advantages for the purpose of erecting and endowing chapels ; he hopes that after consultation with the parishes concerned, the bill will be passed at the next session of Parliament.

Northampton Records Office.

This relates to an Act for inclosing the lands in the East and West Fens in Lincolnshire. Lady Dryden, though resident at Canons Ashby, Northamptonshire, was a landowner in the area affected by the Act. After long negotiations, the Act was passed, including the clauses to which the Clergy had objected, 50 Geo. III, c. 129, and received the Royal Assent, 24 May. 1810.

DUNDAS, Henry, 1st Viscount Melville (1742-1811) Statesman. (See *B.L.* p. 283).

6. Somerset Place. 1791 Oct. 6. Encloses a letter from Sir John Sinclair (*q.v.*) about a Merino Ram for the Society for the Improvement of British Wool ; he had understood that two Rams were to be sent, but supposes the season is too far advanced to send the second. [See SINCLAIR, Sir John, *infra*, Nos. 19, 20].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 10.

7. Revesby Abbey. 1791 Oct. 12.* H.M. The King certainly destined two Rams for the Society ; the second will be sent to their order.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 10vo.

DUNDAS, Thomas, 1st Baron, F.R.S. (1741-1820) Agriculturist. (*B.L.* p. 284).

5. Carlton House. 1811 Feb. 19. Informs B. that on his recommendation to the Prince Regent, [John] Pond will be appointed Astronomer Royal ; he understands that the Home Secretary is the official channel to give effect to this.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 100.

6. [Soho Square. 1811] Feb. 19.* Acknowledges the above letter and notes that H.R.H. is disposed to the appointment of John Pond and that the Home Secretary is the proper person to make the appointment ; asks if it would be proper for him (B.) to take any step in the matter at present. [This apparently was not sent but the following letter substituted].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 100 vo.

7. Soho Square. 1811 Feb. 20.* Acknowledges his letter of the 19th and requests him to convey to H.R.H. his gratitude and to assure him that

his (B.'s) recommendation was made in the knowledge that Pond's qualifications are superior to those of his competitors.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 101.

FITZROY, Augustus Henry, 3rd Duke of Grafton. (1735-1811).

2. Stony Stratford. 1791 Aug. 23. Enquires whether the Spanish Ram presented to him by the King is one of those imported in 1790, or a lamb bred therefrom ; if, the latter, asks its age and by what dam.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 8.

3 [Soho Square]. 1791 Aug. 25.* Replies that the Ram is a real Merino, imported by H.M. in 1790.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 9.

FORSTER, Edward, F.R.S. (1765-1849). Banker and Botanist.

1. Soho Square. 1804 May 26.* Solicits F.'s vote in favour of [Henry James] Cholmeley who wishes to be a candidate for the position of Assistant Physician to Guy's Hospital should a vacancy occur ; he (B.) would not venture to recommend him were he not assured of his merits and qualifications.

Bodleian. *MS. Eng. Letters* c. 200. 64.

Henry James Cholmeley, (1778-1837) was the son of a Lincolnshire friend of B., Montague Cholmeley of Easton, whose wife was Sarah, daughter of another Lincolnshire friend, Humphrey Sibthorp, Professor of Botany at Oxford. Dr. H. S. Cholmeley was of Christ Church, Oxford ; M.A. 1803 ; M.D. 1807 ; F.R.C.P., 1811. He was appointed Physician to Guy's Hospital in 1811, a post which he held until his death.

Edward Forster, Banker of Gracechurch Street, London, was a well-known botanist and a Governor of Guy's Hospital.

GRAFTON, Duke of,—See FITZROY, Augustus Henry.

GREVILLE, Robert Fulke, F.R.S. (1751-1824) Equerry to George III. (See *B.L.* 372 and 903).

30. Gt. Cumberland Street. 1809 July 12. Informs B. that the Prerogative Court has made a decree appointing him sole administrator of the effects of his brother [The Hon. Charles Francis Greville. See *B.L.* p. 370] ; describes the opposition of Lord Warwick, [George, 2nd Earl, elder brother of Robert Fulke Greville] and others ; he will request B., as his bondsman, to execute the necessary deed.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 95-96.

HARRISON, Edward (1763?–1836) Medical Practitioner. (*B.L.* p. 398).

2. Soho Square. 1804 Dec. 31.* Returns thanks for copies of the correspondence between the Rev. Edward Walls [*q.v.* *B.L.* p. 853] and himself (H.), detailing his friendly attempts to effect a reconciliation between Walls and B. ; in view of the implacability of Walls and the foolish lucubrations he has seen fit to publish, he (B.) considers them a “*telum imbelle et sine ictu*,” like all the rest shot out of his Fool’s Quiver” ; if Walls wishes to try the case at law, he will clearly be nonsuited ; expresses his thanks for the honour conferred upon him by the Benevolent Medical Society ; asks if H. keeps a rain-gauge, and if so, requests him to send his readings to [John] Blanchard of Nottingham. [*q.v.* *B.L.* p. 104].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 92.

Full copies of the letters of Harrison and Walls are ff73–91 *vo.* Walls had printed a bitter attack upon B in Nov. 1803, (See *B.L.* p. 854, No. 10) add Harrison, as a neighbour of both parties, made a friendly attempt at reconciliation. B treated Walls’ attack with silent contempt, and Walls remained bitter and implacable.

HARRISON, Sir George (d. 1841). Assistant Secretary to the Treasury. (See *B.L.* p. 398).

4. Treasury Chambers 1811 Feb. 20. Informs B. that he has seen Perceval who desires him to say that B. need trouble himself no further about the appointment of the Astronomer Royal as the matter is now all settled. [See PERCEVAL, Spencer, No. 2, and DUNDAS, Lord Thomas, Nos. 5, 6].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 104.

JENNER, Edward, F.R.S. (1749–1823) Physician and Naturalist. (*B.L.* p. 474).

2. Berkeley. 1789 [end of June]. Describes experiments made in mating a male fox with a female terrier with a view to ascertaining if such a cross would be fertile, but it failed ; describes experiments using serum of human blood as a manure for grass, and experiments on mustard seed set in layers of wool moistened with (1) water, (2) serum, (3) coagulated blood ; the seeds sprouted but soon withered, but when trial was repeated with one part of serum and two parts of water, the experiment was successful ; describes further experiments with growing plants and trees ; he has heard from [Sir Charles] Blagden that his letter to John Hunter on the cuckoo is to be published in *Philosophical Transactions*.

*Baron*¹, i. 73–77

¹ John Baron, *Life of Edward Jenner*, 2 vols. London, 1838.

3. Soho Square 1787 July 7.* He is much interested in the experiment on fox × dog, and the effects of manure on plants ; in consequence of J.'s discovery that the young cuckoo and not the foster-parents ejects the young birds of the host from the nest, requests that the Council of the Royal Society may be allowed to alter J.'s paper accordingly, but they will be glad to print it later ; John Hunter has sent an excellent paper on Whales which will soon be printed.

Baron, i. 77-78.

4. Soho Square. 1811. Dec. 14.* Sends J. notice of his election to the Institut de France in the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. Maskelyne, and congratulates him on his admission by those who "are as little satisfied with the barbarous mode of warfare adopted by their Chief as we Englishmen can be".

Baron, ii. 167.

KNATCHBULL, Frances Anne. (d. 1843).

1. Hatch. 1793 Aug. 11. [To Lady Banks]. Describes a prescription and treatment for gall-stones which Lady B. desired to have ; she hopes it is not required for any member of the family.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 20.

KRAMER, Johann Hermann. (1776-1838). Hydraulic Engineer

1. Bremen. 1816 July 29. Informs B. that he has made "a most important inorganic discovery", (eine der wichtigsten unorganischen Erfindungen) ; he has sent an account of this in a sealed packet to the Gesellschaft d. Wissenschaft : the nature of the discovery is not stated in the letter, but he considers it to be not only of scientific but also of economic value and asks B. to assist him to finance it and to secure his rights as discoverer for the benefit of his family. [*German*].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 138-139.

As this letter was addressed to B., I presumed that by the "Society of Science" The Royal Society is meant. I am informed that there is no reference to the matter in the Council Minutes or other records of the R.S., and it is therefore probable that one of the German Academies is referred to. The letter is written in fulsome and flattering terms.

The writer was an engineer in Norway, then a captain in the Danish army, from which he retired and became a Prussian civil servant with the title of Ober-revisionsrath.

LOUREIRO, João. (1710-1791). (See *B.L.* p. 556).

9. Soho Square. 1780 May 12.* As he has received many advantages from L.'s scientific labours, he hopes he may be induced to visit

England ; their mutual friend Perry, who brought L.'s latest descriptions of Cochin China plants, reports that such a visit is to be hoped for.

Dawson, M.S. 46. 105 vo.

10. Soho Square. 1782 Dec. 22.* Returns by [Francis] Masson L.'s manuscript work entitled *Nova Genera Plantarum* which he had bound into a volume, and on which his (B.'s) name has been inadvertently stamped by his Librarian ; owing to the difficulties under which L. had compiled it through lack of books to which to refer, it contains errors that need correction ; if suitably revised it would be a useful and valuable work ; hopes that in spite of the infirmities of age, L. will be induced to visit England where the resources of B.'s library and the Royal Society will be at his service.

Dawson, MS. 46. 106.

As Padre João Loureiro, an eminent Portuguese botanist who had travelled in the Far East, had sent B. the manuscript of his work on Cochin China plants to be published in England [*B.L.* No. 1], he being then in Canton, B. returned it to him by Francis Masson, [*q.v. B.L.* p. 590], who was about to travel to Spain and Portugal. In B.'s opinion the work required extensive correction and revision before it would be in a fit state for publication. Loureiro had been in Canton from 1779 to 1781 and had returned to Lisbon when B.'s second letter was written. The work was eventually published in two volumes in 1790 with the title *Flora Cochinchinensis*. The mutual friend Perry has not been identified. He was probably an official in the East India Company's establishment at Canton. The originals of both these letters are in the library of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.

MACLEAN, William. Inspector of Customs, H.E.I. Co. (*B.L.* p. 565).

3. E.I. Office 1803 June 28. Reports that two trunks belonging to Deschamps Custom House have not arrived at the E.I. Co. Baggage Warehouse ; he supposes some mistake has arisen owing to the officers at Portsmouth having detained them through the ship being Prize and not condemned ; suggests communicating with Portsmouth ; encloses statement of charges on B.'s Teneriffe wine and other articles sent, not chargeable to the Royal Gardens at Kew. [See *supra*, COLE, William and DESCHAMPS, Louis Auguste].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 37-37 vo.

4. E.I. Office 1803 July 16. Reports that he has found the two missing trunks Custom House. of Deschamps ; encloses copy of a letter from the Collector of Customs at Portsmouth explaining that by an error of the Warehouse Keeper the trunks were sent in the name of Quillon as from Admiral Chapman ; reports that the war-

rant from the Treasury authorizes delivery of the trunks (which contain wearing apparel) and also the collections and papers at Portsmouth; requests B. to order that the remainder of the packages at Portsmouth be sent to the E.I. Co. Baggage Warehouse; meanwhile the two trunks will be sent to Soho Square.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 43-43 vo.

5. E.I. Office 1803 July 20. He has made application for sending the packages
Custom House. of Deschamps from Portsmouth.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 46.

6. E.I. Office 1803 July 27. Reports the arrival of 4 cases and 2 chests
Custom House. belonging to Deschamps; he understands that communication by neutral ships has been stopped and nothing can be sent direct to Calais at present; meanwhile he will have an inventory made so that no delay may occur when an opportunity offers of sending the goods to Deschamps.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 49.

NEPEAN, Sir Evan, Bart., F.R.S. (1751-1822) Under Secretary of State. (*B.L.* p. 633).

14. Whitehall. 1785 Sept. 3. Informs B. that the Commodore has received his orders and will probably sail in a few days; the gardener should call at the Admiralty to receive his official instructions in accordance with the draft furnished by B., before he goes to Portsmouth; Mas[s]on has gone to the City to arrange joining the mess with some of the Mates of the *Talbot*; expects the letters of recommendation to the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope by van Lynden. [Dutch Ambassador].

B.M. (N.H.)†

This letter relates to the journey of Francis Masson to the Cape, (*B.L.* p. 590, No. 4) and precedes NEPEAN, No. 1 (*B.L.* p. 633).

NEWLAND, Isaac. (*B.L.* p. 635).

2. York Place [1793 Aug. 18] Informs B. that there is no other method of sending letters safely to France except through one of the neutral ambassadors, with all of whom B. is acquainted; he thinks that an application by B. himself to Count Woronzow would be effective. [Count Simon Woronzow was Russian Ambassador in England. See *supra*, DESCHAMPS, L. A. No. 7].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 54.

† Inserted in a copy of Edward Smith's *Life of Banks*. (See *supra*, note to ASTLE, Thomas, No. 1).

PERCEVAL, Spencer (1762-1812) Statesman. (B.L. p. 665).

2. Downing Street. 1811 Feb. 10. Assures B. that he will not recommend for appointment as Astronomer Royal any person who has not B.'s approbation ; he has been solicited on behalf of another candidate whom he has informed accordingly. [See *supra*, HARRISON, Sir George, No. 4].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 102.

PERCY, Thomas, D.D. (1729-1811) Bishop of Dromore (See *B.L.* p. 666).

5. Soho Square. 1783 Nov. 11.* Having read in the newspapers of the discovery of the skeleton of a Moose deer of extraordinary size near Dromore, he informs P. that although the horns of that animal have been seen in England, there is no specimen of it except a defective cranium : he requests that the skeleton may be lodged in the B.M. where it can be examined by naturalists with a view to ascertaining whether the species is extinct or if it still exists in any part of the world. [Precedes *B.L.* No. 1].

Bodleian. *MS. Eng. Misc. b. 38. 133-4.*

6. Soho Square. 1783 Dec. 30.* Returns thanks for P.'s letter describing the bones of the deer [*B.L.* No. 1] ; he does not "covet his neighbour's goods" but repeats his request that the specimen be made available for scientific examination ; states his views on the extinction of animals and sends an engraving of the bones of a horse to help in identifying the corresponding bones of the deer. [Follows *B.L.* No. 1].

Bodleian. *MS. Eng. Misc. b. 38 137-8.*

7. Soho Square. 1784 Feb. 7.* Returns thanks for P.'s letter enclosing a drawing of the deer's horns, [*B.L.* No. 2] ; considers the Moose of America to be the same animal as the Elk of northern Europe, and that Josseline (*sic*) gives a foolish reason for the Moose being different from the Elk, [John Josselyn, *New England's Rarities discovered*, 1672] ; he alters his opinion in his *New England Voyages*, [*Account of Two Voyages to New England*, 1674, p. 88] where he describes an animal under the name of Moose or Elk killed in Finland ; B. considers both accounts to be fabulous ; states the differences in the antlers of the Dromore deer and the Irish Elk ; Pennant is of opinion that the Moose and the Elk are the same animal ; the *Anatomy of the animals in the Museum of the King of France* is published both in French and English ; he has all the versions in his library, and not

one of them gives the skeleton of a deer though a young Elk is depicted ; thanks F. for the reference to the *Camelopardalis* [in Fynes Moryson's *Travels*, 1617], there is a stuffed skin in the B.M. and some bones, and he hopes the living animal may be found at the Cape of Good Hope.

Bodleian. *MS. Eng. Misc.* b. 38. 139-140.

PHIPPS, Constantine John, 2nd Baron Mulgrave, F.R.S. (1744-1792) Naval Officer. (*B.L.* p669).

4. *Race Horse*, off [1773] July 4. Although in 79° 30' he has seen no ice, and has no fire in his cabin ; he has collected various Natural History specimens for B., including a new *Larus*. [This bird is a Kittiwake, *Rissa tridactyla*. L. ; the letter is published in *Journ. Soc. Bibl. Nat. Hist.*, Vol. 4. pt. 4, (1964), p. 208].

B.M. (N.H.)†

PIGAULT-MOBAILLARCQ: (*B.L.* p. 671).

2. Calais. 1803 July 7. [Written on the back of DESCHAMPS, L. A., No. 5]. Corrects Deschamps's letter, left open, to say that the quickest way to obtain his effects and those of Broussonet would be to send them to [George] Christopher of the Custom House, London, with the request to ship them directly on the first neutral ship for Calais, as it is doubtful that they can come from Dover, and Christopher will do what is necessary.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 65.

RAMPASSE, Joseph. (fl. 1805-1816) Geologist. (See *B.L.* p. 693, and First Supplement, p. 60).

- 4 Florence. 1816 Oct. 29. After a flattering introduction, he states that he has written four times since receiving his letter of 25 Jan. [Supp. No. 2, precedes *B.L.* p. 693, No. 1], on 7 May, 7 June and 13 Sept. [*B.L.* No. 2] ; his unfortunate situation moved him to approach the authorities of the B.M. [in order to sell them his collections] ; his present state is even worse as he has had to incur commitments for his subsistence which have brought him before the Civil Courts ; he has temporized with them in the hope of a favourable decision [by the B.M.] but he cannot hold out any longer without the kindly intervention of B. and makes a poignant appeal ; in a P.S. he states that a remark by one of B.'s countrymen has given him fears as to B.'s health ; he has since heard a

† Inserted in a copy of Edward Smith's *Life of Banks*. See above, note to ASTLE, Thomas, No. 1.

satisfactory report from [August Friedrich] Schweigger, a German Professor of Zoology ; from his meeting with Schweigger he is more than ever convinced that his letters have not been received. [*French*].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 140.

5. Florence. 1816 Nov. 23. Acknowledges B.'s letter of 11 Oct. which arrived 9 Nov., the first he has had since that of 25 Jan. [*B.L.* No. 1], and which crossed his own of 29 Oct. [No. 4] ; the disappointment conveyed by this last letter is very painful that the Trustees of the B.M. have declined his offer although the previous letter gave him grounds for hope ; he repeats that the hopes that B.'s friend M. Dashewoot [?Dashwood] had given him are nullified by B.'s letter ; he considers that the candour and integrity in which he conducted his negotiations with the Trustees should entitle him to assistance either by B. personally or by the Trustees in view of his distressing circumstances ; asks B. to appoint some trusty person to arbitrate on the value of the 3 cases of minerals he sent ; states that these minerals, other than the porphyry, orbicular granite and Corsican sand, were specially obtained for him in Tuscany as specimens not to be found in any other collection. [*French*].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 142.

It is not known how the affair of the unfortunate Rampasse terminated as the correspondence is incomplete : such letters as have survived come from three different sources. The minerals he sent for purchase by the B.M., and which the Trustees declined, were presumably sent back to him, unless B. had them sold in London for Rampasse's benefit.

REEVES, John (1752?—1829) King's Printer. (*B.L.* p. 695).

2. Soho Square. 1814 Dec. 7.*. *Incipit* " In answer to your Question with which your Pamphlet is headed I beg leave to write NO ; " against R.'s contention that the Americans born before the Independence, by the laws of England are not aliens, B. affirms that every American who levied war against his Sovereign is guilty of High Treason ; also that the declaration of Independence in Parliament is in effect a declaration that the Americans are no longer subjects of Great Britain ; discusses the legal status of *ante nati* and *post nati* ; a person declared to be independent cannot be *ad fidem regis* of the country of which he is independent.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 135 vo—136 vo

In 1814, Reeves published a pamphlet purporting to prove that Americans born before the Independence are by the laws of England not aliens. In 1816, he published another of

the same purport. Banks emphatically disagreed with this opinion, and drew up a statement headed "An Attempt to refute the Argument of the arrogant Barrister who has ventured to declare that all the World, himself alone excepted, were labouring under the disabilities of Vulgar Error." A copy of this document, not in B.'s handwriting, is preserved with the copy of the letter. B. has cancelled the last paragraph and added in his own hand the following: "The arguments concerning Ante and Post nati were not as I fancied them when I wrote the above at the occasion of Queen Annes union of the two kingdoms. They were on the uniting of the Two Kingdoms under James the first. The arguments therefore are sound as the ante nati could not be subjects of the English Crown unless admitted to that Privilege by Parliament.

"If Americans can in any sense be deemed Subjects of the British Crown all of them ante nati as well as Post nati must be endowd with the Privelege as the Common Law of England allows the children and grandchildren of British subjects wheresoever they may be born and does not make any distinction of Privelege or Duties between such subjects and those natural born." [f. 136 v^o].

SARGENT, John. Official of the Treasury.

1. Soho Square. 1803 June 24*. Deschamps, who accompanied d'Entrecasteaux as Naturalist during his voyage in search of La Peyrouse and resided 12 years in Java, was captured on board *L'Union* on his return by H.M.S. *Jupiter*, Capt. Lossack; application was made by B. for his release as a non-combatant which was immediately granted and he returned to his own country; the Captors gave up his personal luggage and collections; his clothes in two trunks are now in the E.I. Co.'s warehouse in London, his collections and papers are in charge of the Custom House at Portsmouth; he requests that the Lords of the Treasury may empower him (B.) to receive these duty free, and he would then forward them to their owner in France by a neutral vessel; this indulgence to men of Science would produce good consequences when the French and their ruler lay aside the passion that now influences them.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 48.

See, above, the letters of COLE, W. and DESCHAMPS, L. A.

SINCLAIR, Sir John, 1st Bart., F.R.S. (1754-1835) President of the Board of Agriculture. (See *B.L.* p. 755).

- 19 North
Merchiston. 1791 Aug. 19. [to Henry Dundas, *q.v.*]. Encloses a letter from B. announcing that the King has allotted two Merino Rams to the Society for Improving British Wool; describes the plans and activities of the Society; encloses a memorandum as to how the Rams are to be conveyed to Edinburgh. [See DUNDAS, Henry, No. 6].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281, 5-6.

20. Leith [1791 Oct. 4]. [To Henry Dundas]. Notifies the arrival of a Ram ; he understands that two were destined and hopes the mistake will be rectified.
B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 7.
21. Edinburgh. 1791 Oct. 22. Encloses letter from Henry Dundas and requests B., when he goes to Windsor, to endeavour to have the second Ram dispatched this season ; describes the Society's holding of Merino sheep and crosses and encloses a specimen of the wool.
B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 11.
22. [Revesby Abbey 1971] Oct. 27.* Returns thanks for the specimen of wool ; H.M. gave early orders for two Rams to be sent to the " Scotch Society " and Dundas was informed of the fact ; the mistake was made by Ramsay Robinson, the Windsor shepherd, and as soon as it was discovered, Dundas was informed that a second Ram would be delivered to his order.
B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 11 vo.

SOMERVILLE, John Southey, 15th Baron Somerville. (1765-1819) President of the Board of Agriculture.

1. Soho Square. 1799 May 11.* Acknowledges Lord S.'s letter of May 6, recommending the formation of an Agricultural Society at Horncastle, which he has forwarded for the consideration of the gentlemen of that vicinity ; as Lord S. and the Board have nominated him (B.) as a proper person to be the President of such society, he wishes to be informed in what other towns in Lincolnshire the Board has recommended the establishment of societies with the names of the proposed Presidents, as so much depends on the zeal of those who undertake such office. [Lord S.'s letter is a printed one, signed by him as President of the Board of Agriculture, with blanks for the insertion of the names of the towns and the proposed Presidents].
Rothamstead† <1>
2. Sackville Street. 1799 May 20. [Third person]. Lord S. sends forms for B. to insert the names of such towns in which Agricultural Societies can be advantageously founded, and the names of persons recommended as President of each.
Rothamstead <2>

† Manuscripts in the library of the Rothamstead Experimental Station.

3. [Soho Square. 1799] May 21.* [Third person]. B. presents his compliments to Lord S. but as he doubts his ability to execute the task to his Lordship's satisfaction, he begs that the matter may be put into the hands of some person better able to perform it.

Rothamstead <3>

For Lord Somerville's activities as an agriculturist, see H. B. Carter, *His Majestys' Spanish Flock* 1964, pp. 246ff.

TOPPING, Timothy.

1. Bermondsey [1815 Apr. 6] On his return from being a prisoner in France, he was requested to take charge of the enclosed letter [DESCHAMPS, L.A. No. 10] ; requests that B. will give him the information asked for, which he will communicate to Deschamps.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 67.

2. Soho Square 1815 Apr. 7.* In reply to his and Deschamps's letters, he has read the correspondence that passed between them in 1803 and finds that Deschamps wrote on 5 July and on the back of that letter was a note from Pigault-Moillaucq (*q.v.*) desiring Deschamps's baggage to be sent to Mr. Christopher at the Custom House, London, to be dispatched by him ; this was done and he had no doubt that the baggage was sent ; he heard no more of the matter until the receipt of Deschamps's letter, when he had search made at the Custom House, but without result.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 68.

YOUNG, Arthur, F.R.S. (1741-1820) Agriculturist. (See *B.L.* pp. 888 and 911).

- 22 Bradfield. [1791] Sept. 14. Asks if it would be proper to advertise in the *Annals [of Agriculture]* that the King having presented to the Editor a Merino Ram in order to multiply useful crosses, the Ram shall cover ewes at a charge of a guinea each ; if B. judges that it would be distasteful to H.M., he would not so advertise. [Note by B. "To answer for the opinions of very Great People is impossible but my own on the subject of Spanish Sheep is that H.M. gracious purpose in giving you a Merino Ram cannot be better answered than by your advertising him at a Guinea a Ewe." [The advertisement was duly printed, and a copy of it is appended, f. 134].

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 132.

23. Sackville Street. [1798] May 31. Sends by order of the Board [of Agriculture] a communication by Ainsworth on Vegetables and requests B.'s opinion as to whether it merits publication or not. Endorsed "Not fit for Publication. J. B."

Rothamstead <4>.

YOUNG, Thomas, M.D., F.R.S. (1773-1829) Physician and Physicist. (See *B.L.* p. 891).

5. Welbeck St. 1801 July 9. [To Count Rumford]. Accepts the offer made to him by the Managers of the Royal Institution, [to be Professor of Natural Philosophy, editor of the Journals and Keeper of the House] ; considers the reduced salary offered inadequate ; his new duties would much limit his opportunities for continuing his medical practice which he cannot bind himself to discontinue entirely ; considers that the issue of the Journals should be left to the discretion of the Professor and not necessarily to be weekly.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281, 30-31.

Count Rumford evidently sent this letter to B. for his information. Young was duly appointed but resigned the professorship in 1803. See *B.L.* p. 814, No. 47.

PSEUDONYMOUS LETTERS. (*B.L.* p. 895).

37. Stockholm. 1797 June 4. Signed "Antiquarius Botherarius". Neatly and closely written, the letter fills 3 pages. The writing is much faded and is difficult to read. The narrative, a burlesque full of absurdities, reads like a modern Arabic popular story. The episode of the amulet in the form of a miniature crocodile, which, on the recitation of a magical formula, becomes a real crocodile, recalls that in an ancient Egyptian story in the Papyrus Westcar. (Maspero, *Popular Stories of Ancient Egypt*, 1915, p. 26).

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 23-24.

38. [1798] —. A satirical letter, undated, but marked by B. as received 19 Dec. 1798. It is addressed "Sir Joseph Bankis Knt., Small Beer Green, near Hounslow", and signed "Pigdum Funnibus", and is insulting to Lady Banks.

B.M. Add. MS. 52281. 25.

